ATLAS

RAWHIDE KID

# HE SHARES HIS SADDLE WITH DANGER!

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

JAN.

# RAWHIDE KID

NO. 12

10¢

## "RANGE WAR!"

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# GIVEN! GIVEN!

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# THE RAWHIDE KID

TAKE DOWN THE BARRICADE, YOU BUZZARDS! THIS COUNTRY IS OPEN TO ALL HONEST TRAFFIC!

## "RANGE WAR!"

ONE MAN STOOD BETWEEN THE WEARY HOMESTEADERS AND THE GREEDY INTERESTS WHO WOULD DENY THEM A PLACE IN THE SUN! *THE RAWHIDE KID* WAS READY TO TAKE SIDES IN THE SIMMERING FEUD THAT WOULD EXPLODE ANY MINUTE!

K 768

SEETHING TEMPERS WERE STRAINED TO THE BREAKING POINT...

DON'T FORCE THIS INTO A SHOWDOWN! SHOW ME YOUR RIGHTS TO THIS FREE RANGE OR RIP DOWN THAT BARRICADE AND LET THESE SETTLERS PASS!

YOU CAN ARGUE WITH OUR BOSS, BULL BRENNAN!

OUR ORDERS ARE TO KEEP THOSE FREE-LOADING JASPERS OFF THE RANGE!

THERE'S NO HOMBRE LIVING WHO CAN LAY CLAIM TO FREE RANGE! IT'S OPEN TO GRAZING AND SETTLING ALIKE!

TALK IS CHEAP! THE BARRICADE STAYS UP AND THESE NESTORS KEEP OFF THE LAND!

HANDS SWEPT TO HOLSTERS, BUT THE HANDS OF THE RAWHIDE KID WERE ALREADY FILLED AND TALKING WITH AUTHORITY...

IF IT'S SIX-GUN PALAVER YOU WANT, YOU CAN HAVE ALL YOU CAN TAKE!

ALL RIGHT! NOW PUT YOUR BACKS TO THESE TIMBERS AND HAUL THEM OFF THE TRAIL!

WE CAN NEVER REPAY YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE, KID! I'M AFRAID THIS WON'T SETTLE THE MATTER THOUGH! THEY'LL KEEP US FROM LIVIN' IN PEACE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!

NOT WHILE I'M AROUND, STILES! YOUR PEOPLE HAVE A LEGAL RIGHT TO SETTLE HERE! THAT'S WHAT THE LAND IS FOR!

WE TRAVELED TWELVE HUNDRED MILES TO FIND HOMES AND PEACE! IT WASN'T THE REDSKINS WHO FOUGHT US, BUT OUR OWN KIND! THAT'S WHAT HURTS!

LET *ME* DO THE WORRYING FOR YOU!

GET YOUR WAGONS STARTED ACROSS THE LINE! I'LL CHECK ON YOU LATER!

GO BACK TO YOUR RAMROD BOSS AND TELL HIM THE RAWHIDE KID DIDN'T LIKE THE WAY HE DOES THINGS!

WE'LL TELL HIM! MEANWHILE, YOU BETTER PICK YOURSELF OUT A PLOT ON BOOTHILL!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE RANCHERS WOULD LET A BUSHWHACKER LIKE BULL BRENNAN ACT IN THEIR BEHALF! SOMETHING'S WRONG!

LATER...

YES, WE KNOW ABOUT BRENNAN'S REPUTATION, BUT WE HIRED HIM TO PROTECT OUR INTERESTS WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THERE WOULD BE NO GUNPLAY!

FRED, WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR YEARS! I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE OUR PEOPLE WOULD KEEP SETTLERS OFF FREE RANGE!

IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE RANCHERS I KNOW!

BRENNAN SHOWED US STAKE-OUT PLANS THE SETTLERS HAD PREPARED! THEY INTENDED SEIZING ALL THE RANGE FOR THEIR OWN USE!

WE CAN'T ALLOW THAT!

FRED, THOSE SETTLERS AREN'T RANCHERS! THEY'D HAVE NO USE FOR BIG TRACTS OF LAND! IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

MEANWHILE, AS THE HOMESTEADERS SETTLED DOWN...

GEE, IT'S GOING TO BE GREAT HAVING YOU FOR NEIGHBORS! WE'LL GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AND HAVE PLENTY OF FUN!

I HOPE WE CAN STAY HERE! I HAVEN'T STAYED PUT IN ONE PLACE SINCE I CAN REMEMBER!

SUDDENLY... THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY! WHO ARE THEY?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT FROM THE WAY THEY'RE RIDIN', IT LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE!

THEY DESCENDED ON THE SETTLERS LIKE PLUNDERING LOCUSTS, DESTROYING ALL IN THEIR PATH AND LEAVING NOTHING BUT TURMOIL IN THEIR WAKE...

TH-THEY DIDN'T LEAVE US N-NOTHIN'!

DON'T WORRY! THEY'LL GET WHAT'S COMING TO THEM! I'M GOING TO FIND KID!

LATER... KID! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP THE HOMESTEADERS! THEIR CAMP WAS RAIDED BY MARAUDERS! THEY BURNED EVERYTHING!

WHAT! MAYBE THIS WILL BRING THE RANCHERS TO THEIR SENSES!

AT THE HOMESTEADERS' CAMPSITE... WE CAME HERE TO MAKE HOMES AND RAISE OUR FAMILIES IN PEACE! WE'LL PULL UP STAKES AND LOOK FOR A MORE FRIENDLY TERRITORY!

THAT WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING! WE NEED SETTLERS HERE! IT'S PART OF THE GROWTH OF A NATION AND YOU PEOPLE ARE THE BACKBONE OF THIS TERRITORY'S FUTURE!

I WANT YOU TO STAY AND SEE THIS THROUGH! THERE'S A RANCHERS' MEETING TONIGHT AND I INTEND TO SAY A FEW WORDS WHICH MAY CHANGE ALL THIS!

WE'VE WAITED A LONG TIME NOW, BUT A FEW DAYS MORE WON'T DO ANY HARM!

LATER, AS KID AND RANDY CROSSED THE RANGE ON THEIR WAY TO TOWN...

LOOK, KID! THOSE MEN ARE STRINGING BARBED WIRE UP ON THE RANGE!

LET'S SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT! STAY CLEAR OF TROUBLE IF IT STARTS, RANDY!

SINCE WHEN IS OPEN RANGE COUNTRY FENCED OFF?

SINCE BULL BRENNAN TOOK TITLE TO IT ALL FAIR AN' LEGAL!

IF YOU GIVE US ANY TROUBLE, YOU'LL HAVE THE LAW TO DEAL WITH!

WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW, KID?

TO THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE! OLD JIM HALFORD SHOULD BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN THIS DIRTY DEAL!

LATER, IN THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE...

I WANT TO SEE THE TITLE RECORDS ON THE FREE RANGE WHICH HAS JUST BEEN HANDED OVER TO BRENNAN'S MOB! WHERE'S JIM HALFORD?

YOU MEAN THE OLD CLERK? HE QUIT THE JOB! I'M IN CHARGE AND I'M NOT SHOWIN' RECORDS TO ANY JASPER WHO GETS NOSY!

THESE BOOKS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, IF THEY'RE BEING KEPT HONESTLY!

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF THOSE RECORDS!

THANKS, RANDY! NOW LET'S LOOK AT THESE RECORDS!

HERE IT IS... THE WHOLE RANGE DEEDED OVER TO BULL BRENNAN BY THE RANCHERS! THIS MUST BE A *FORGERY*! THE RANCHERS WOULDN'T GIVE AWAY THEIR GRAZING LANDS!

YOU SEE IT IN BLACK AND WHITE, MISTER!

FREEZE!

BRENNAN! HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO PULL THIS DIRTY DEAL OFF?

I KNOW YOU DIDN'T GET THAT LAND HONESTLY!

IT WAS EASY! ONCE I CONVINCED THE RANCHERS THAT THE HOMESTEADERS WERE AFTER THEIR RANGE, THE RANCHERS SIGNED PROTECTIVE DEEDS OVER TO ME!

YOU MEAN THEY GAVE YOU TITLE TO THE LAND OR PERMISSION TO GUARD IT?

THEY GAVE ME PERMISSION...ON *BLANK DEEDS*, AND THE DEEDS WERE *SIGNED*! *I* FILLED IN THE REST MYSELF! PRETTY SLICK, HUH?

*IF* YOU GET AWAY WITH IT!

SUDDENLY, THE RAWHIDE KID AND RANDY ERUPTED INTO ACTION...

IT'S TIME TO GET THE RECORD *STRAIGHT*, BRENNAN!

IT'S TOO LATE FOR GUNPLAY, BRENNAN! YOU MADE ONE MISTAKE IN YOUR LITTLE LAND GRAB!

YOU *CAN'T* CLAIM TITLE, BECAUSE THE *OFFICIAL SEAL* AND *SIGNATURE* ISN'T ON THE DEEDS! YOU GOT RID OF JIM HALFORD TOO SOON!

HALFORD? BRING HIM OUT OF THE BACK ROOM! MAKE HIM SIGN THE PAPERS! HE'S GOTTA SIGN 'EM!

I'LL SIGN, OKAY! I'LL SIGN *WARRANTS* FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!

THIS VALLEY IS GOING TO BE FULL OF RED-FACED RANCHERS TONIGHT! I'VE GOT A HUNCH THE HOMESTEADERS ARE GOIN' TO BE OUR NEIGHBORS FOR A *LONG TIME* TO COME!

THE END

# INDIAN BOW

JEFF STANTON threw a cartridge into the firing chamber of the new Winchester his father had given him and drew a bead on the target backed up against the old pump house. His hand steadied on the trigger. Slowly his trigger finger pulled back. Then: *Crack!*

On the outer edge of the target, a small hole appeared.

From behind Jeff, a low laugh sounded.

"Idea is to hit the center, Jeff," Laughing Eagle, his fourteen-year-old Indian friend said. "Here, give it to me."

Jeff, his face a study in disappointment, relinquished the rifle.

"Think you can do any better?" he asked scornfully.

"I'll try," Laughing Eagle said. He filled the firing chamber with a flick of his finger, brought the muzzle of the gun up swiftly, and without taking apparent aim, fired.

"Whew!" Jeff exclaimed.

Now there was a round hole in the exact center of the target.

"That's shootin'!" Jeff continued. He clapped laughing Eagle on the shoulder. "Eagle, if only that marksmanship contest next Tuesday was with guns, instead of Indian bows . . . well, you'd win by a mile."

A shadow crossed the Indian boy's face.

"I know," he said. "There isn't a chance I could win, not with a regular tribal bow." He bent and meditatively picked up the long Indian bow which for days, now, he'd tried to bend to its full limit. He twanged the string and shrugged.

"Here, give it to me," Jeff said. "Maybe I'm a little stronger, bein' fifteen." Jeff fitted an arrow from Laughing Eagle's quiver that lay on the ground, onto the bowstring and pulled. The taut gut string creaked, while the muscles stood out on Jeff's wiry arms. He pulled and pulled. Then, abruptly, the bow got out of his hands with a jump and the arrow flew into the air. Mournfully, Laughing Eagle went over to retrieve it. He came back shaking his head.

"My father, the chief, has offered a pony to the brave who wins the contest," he said. "But only the strongest of the tribe will have a chance." He gazed ruefully at his boyish arms. "Flying Stork, the son of the medicine man will win. He is eighteen and strong as the north wind." Laughing Eagle sighed. "He is also boastful, and says that only the man who can hit a distant target with a large tribal bow is fit to inherit the chieftainship."

"But that's nonsense," Jeff said indignantly. "Your tribe sent you to the white school at Gray Bluffs. It takes brains to be a chief, not just muscles!"

Laughing Eagle smiled gravely.

"So do many of my tribe think," he said. "But there are fools among the red men as there are among the whites."

He looked up suddenly, as a sound of hoofbeats came from over a far rise. In a moment, a mounted figure appeared at a gallop, riding down the road into Rock Gulch.

"Flying Stork!" Laughing Eagle said bitterly. "He practices with his bow wherever he goes, even upon an errand into the white man's town."

The two boys watched as the distant Indian, clattering along the road, suddenly drew an arrow from his quiver, fitted it expertly on the pitching mount and fired. Jeff whistled. "Some shot!" he said. Again Flying Stork drew an arrow from his quiver. The bow twanged above the sound of his mount's hoofbeats.

"Right in the middle of that old long-horn skull!" Jeff said excitedly. "A bull's eye!" Then he paused, abruptly, realizing that his excitement was embarrassing his best friend. But Laughing Eagle was already moving toward his aging pony.

"I must go, Jeff," he said, and his voice was vibrating with some inner excitement

"But, Eagle, it's early yet. Why not stay for supper?"

The Indian boy glanced toward the long-horn skull transfixed by the arrow and then at the diminishing figure of Flying Stork.

"Because I think I have the answer to hitting a really distant target with an Indian bow," he said excitedly.

"What answer . . . ?" Jeff began, but his friend was already out of the ranch-house yard on his pony. Puzzled, he watched Laughing Eagle canter out to the long-horn skull and stare fixedly

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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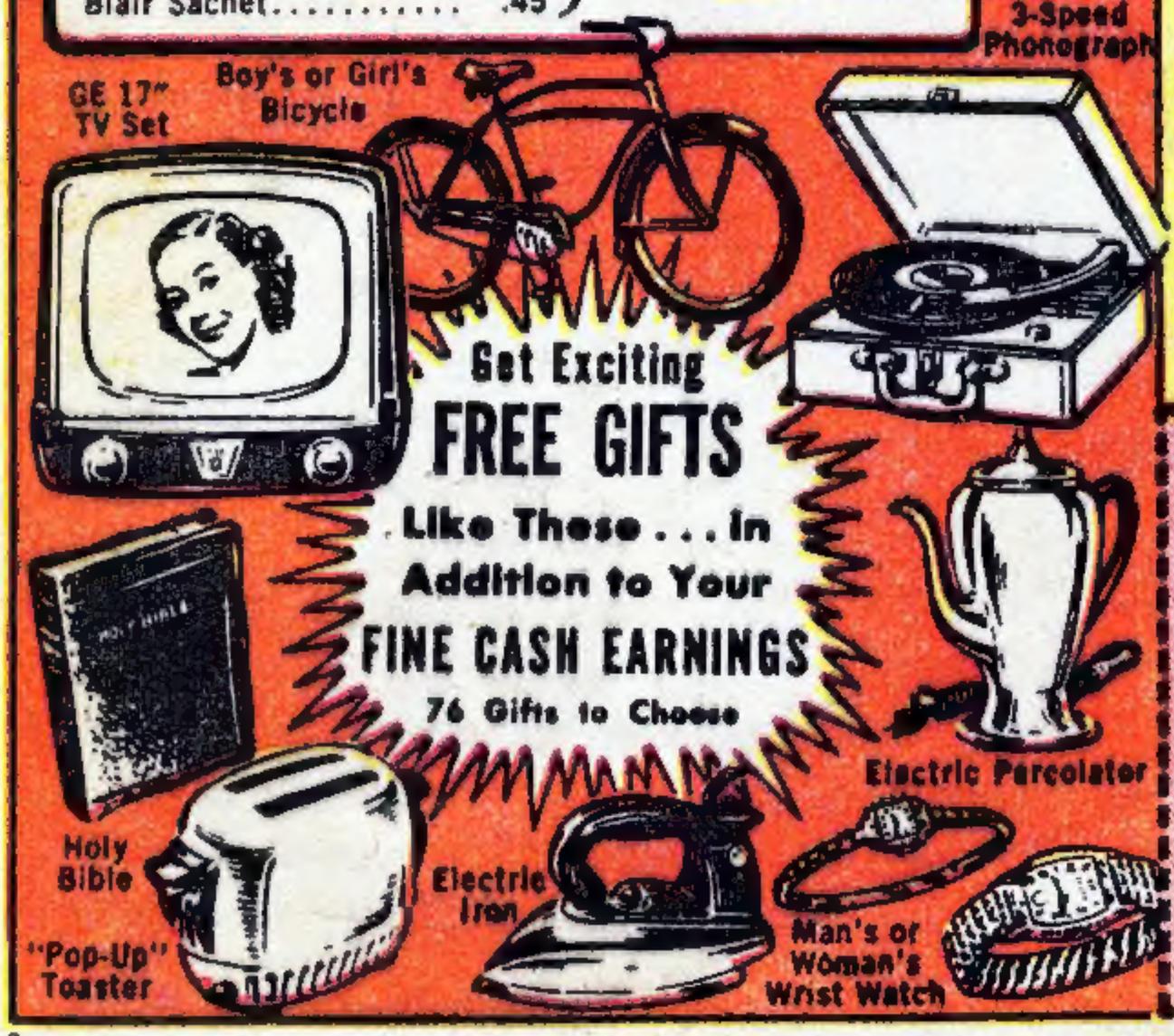


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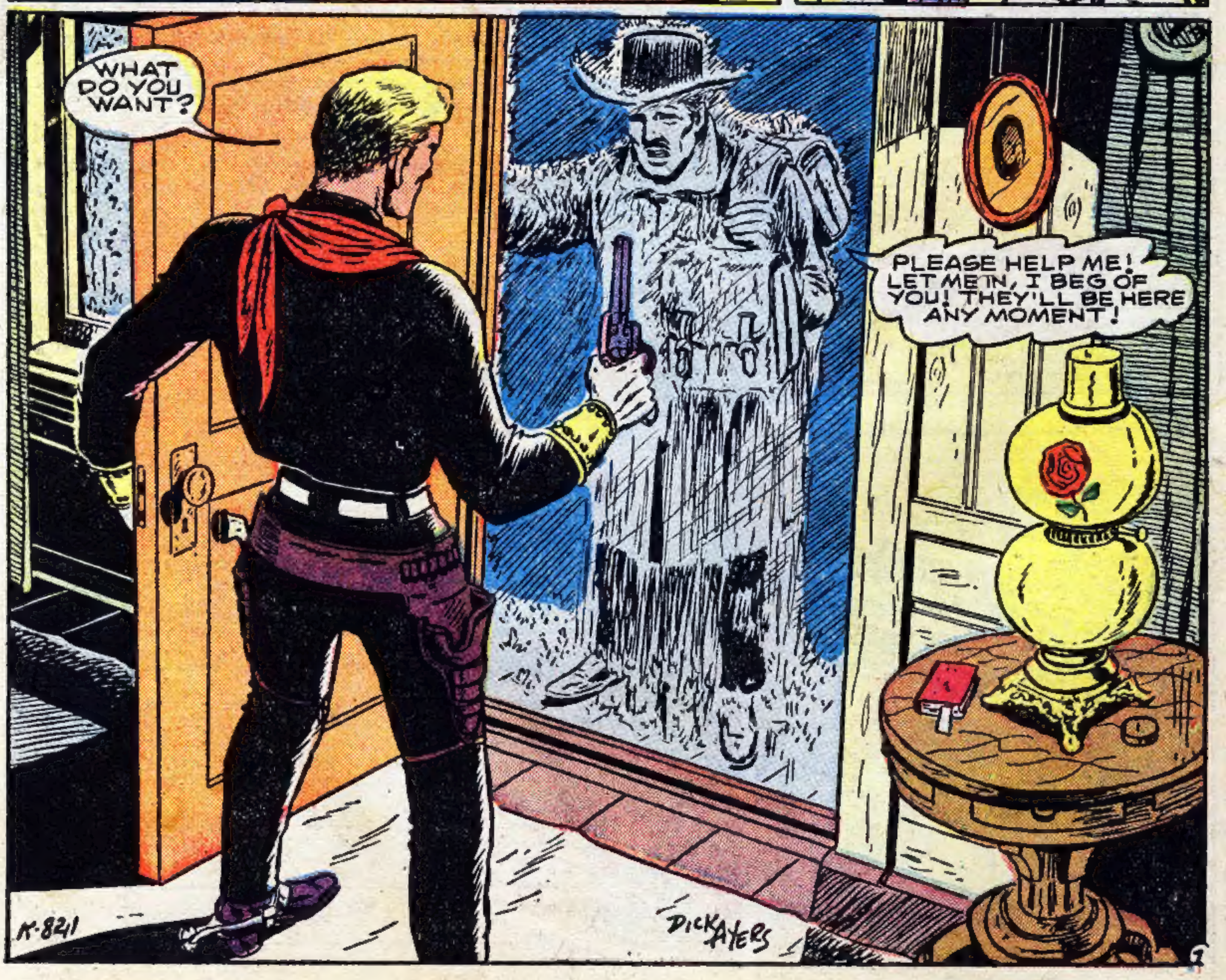
# THE RAWHIDE KID

THE ELEMENTS UNLEASHED ALL THEIR FURY AGAINST THE STURDILY-BUILT CABIN, AS THOUGH TRYING TO RIP IT APART! SUDDENLY, *THE RAWHIDE KID* AND HIS LITTLE PARTNER, RANDY CLAYTON, SAW A FACE AT THE WINDOW... A FACE THAT WAS TO START AN UNEXPECTED SIEGE!



RELAX, STRANGER! YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE WITH US! WHO ARE YOU AND WHO SEEMS TO BE CHASING YOU?

I'M RUSS HOWLAND, PEACE OFFICER OF JAVELIN COUNTY! IT'S THE BRIGGS BROTHERS! THOSE SIDEWINDERS HAVE FOLLOWED ME FOR MILES!

THE BRIGGS BROTHERS? I'VE HEARD OF THOSE BUSHWHACKERS! WHY DO THEY WANT TO BOTHER *YOU*?

BECAUSE RIGHT HERE IN THIS POUCH, I HAVE THE WARRANTS WHICH WILL PUT THEM BEHIND BARS FOR LIFE! THE WARRANTS HAVE TO BE SIGNED BY THE MARSHAL OF SIERRA, BEFORE THEY CAN BE SERVED!

THEY SAY THE BRIGGS BROTHERS NEVER LEAVE A MAN'S TRAIL, ONCE THEY START OUT! I'VE GOT TO REACH SIERRA BEFORE THEY CATCH UP WITH ME!

YOU'LL GET THERE, HOWLAND, AND YOUR WARRANTS WILL BE SIGNED!

SUDDENLY...

EVERYBODY DOWN! RANDY, CRAWL AWAY FROM THAT WINDOW!

IT'S THEM! I KNEW THEY'D CATCH UP WITH ME!

THE RAWHIDE KID LEAPED TO THE DOOR WITH HIS GUNS ROARING INTO THE STORMY DARKNESS...

CLOSE IN, YOU BUSHWHACKERS! YOU'VE HIT THE END OF THE TRAIL!

MEANWHILE, NOT FAR FROM THE CABIN...

HOWLAND, WE'VE CAUGHT UP WITH YUH! NO USE HOLIN' UP IN THAT CABIN! SOONER OR LATER, WE'LL GET YOU!

*WHAT?!*

THERE'S SOMEBODY DOWN YONDER WHO CAN THROW MEAN LEAD, LUKE! WE MAY HAVE TROUBLE GETTIN' OUR MAN!

RECKON MEBBE YOU'RE RIGHT, ALF! WELL, WE MAY HAVE TO GET SOMEBODY ELSE, TO GET HOWLAND, BUT WE'LL DO IT! LET'S MOVE IN CLOSER!

MOMENTS LATER...

POUR SOME LEAD INTO THE SHACK! MEBBE THAT'LL GIVE THAT HOMBRE THE IDEA THAT PROTECTING HOWLAND AIN'T HEALTHY!

YEAH ... AN' MEBBE THAT HOMBRE IS GOIN' TO GIVE *US* A HARD TIME!

GO DOWN AN' TALK TO HIM, LUKE! TELL HIM WHAT HE'S UP AGAINST!

HALLO, YOU DOWN YONDER! I'M COMIN' IN UNDER A TRUCE! DON'T SHOOT!

KEEP THAT FLAG WAVING WITH BOTH HANDS, MISTER!

I'M LUKE BRIGGS! I GOT MY TWO BROTHERS UP YONDER COVERIN' ME! YOU AN' ME AIN'T GOT NO ARGUMENT! ALL WE WANT IS THAT LAWMAN YOU GOT INSIDE!

AND ALL YOU'LL *SEE* IS THE WORKING ENDS OF A PAIR OF SIX-GUNS! GO BACK TO YOUR BROTHERS!

SUIT YOURSELF, MISTER! WE'D AS SOON TAKE TWO TO GET ONE! HOWLAND WILL NEVER LEAVE THAT CABIN ALIVE!

YES, HE *WILL* ... AND HE'LL GET THROUGH WITH THOSE WARRANTS, TOO!

RANDY, TAKE A WINCHESTER AND STAND GUARD AT THE FRONT WINDOW! I THINK WE'RE IN FOR A SIEGE!

HAND ME A GUN! I'LL DO MY SHARE! MAYBE THOSE BRIGGS RATTLERS WILL NEVER LIVE TO STAND TRIAL!

THE BARRAGE WASN'T LONG IN COMING...

THEY'VE SPREAD OUT TO JUMP US! DON'T WASTE AMMO! SHOOT TO KEEP THEM FROM CLOSING IN!

KID, I CAN'T SEE YOU AND THAT YOUNGSTER RISK YOUR LIVES ON MY ACCOUNT! THIS IS *MY* JOB...

GO BACK TO YOUR WINDOW, HOWLAND! WE'LL MAKE THEM SORRY THEY EVER STARTED THIS SIEGE!

NO! IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO THAT BOY, I'D NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF! LET ME MAKE A BREAK FOR IT, OR SURRENDER TO THEM!

IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT IT, WE'LL TRY SOMETHING ELSE, HOWLAND... *BUT NO SURRENDER!*

RANDY, WE'RE GOING TO TRY A RUSE! SNEAK OUT IN BACK AND SET YOUR HORSE LOOSE! IT MIGHT THROW THEM OFF!

OKAY, KID!

KING, TAKE OFF LIKE A STREAK OF LIGHT AND KEEP GOING! WE'RE DEPENDING ON YOU!

GO ON, KING! YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!

*MOMENTS LATER...*

I SENT HIM OFF, KID!

GOOD! NOW YOU COVER FOR ME! I'M GOING OUT TO TALK TO THOSE WEASELS!

AS KID MET THE BRIGGS BROTHERS UNDER A TRUCE FLAG...

YOU'RE ALL FAST ASLEEP, BRIGGS! HOWLAND JUST LIT OUT ON A FAST HORSE! IT LOOKS LIKE THE SIEGE IS OVER!

AN' YOU'RE LYIN'! THAT WAS A RIDERLESS PONY JUST GALLOPED AWAY! BETTER TRY SOMETHIN' ELSE!

BACK IN THE CABIN...

IT DIDN'T WORK! RANDY, YOU AND MR. HOWLAND CLIMB ABOARD APACHE AND TAKE OFF! HOWLAND, LEAVE THE WARRANTS WITH ME, IN CASE THEY GO AFTER YOU!

IF YOU CAN STOP 'EM, WE'LL CIRCLE BACK!

AND AS APACHE THUNDERED AWAY...

GET GOING! I'LL HOLD 'EM OFF!

GO AFTER THEM! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS HOMBRE!

YOU'RE NOT TAKING CARE OF ANYBODY, BRIGGS... AND YOUR BROTHERS WILL NEVER MOUNT THEIR CAYUSES!

FREEZE IN YOUR TRACKS, YOU BUZZARDS! THIS SIEGE IS *OVER* FOR *ALL* OF YOU!

AND AS RANDY AND THE PEACE OFFICER CIRCLED BACK...

...AND *I'LL* TAKE THEM ON TO SIERRA, TO BE *SIGNED* AND *SERVED*! YOU'LL SPEND A LONG TIME IN A CELL, THINKING OF A MAN CALLED *THE RAWHIDE KID* AND HIS PARTNER *RANDY CLAYTON*!

THE END

# PRICES DOWN!

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Send RING SIZES INITIAL WANTED and your BIRTH MONTH If you need more room attach a sheet of paper

# THE RAWHIDE KID

IT'S A STAMPEDE, APACHE! LET'S HEAD THOSE LONGHORNS OFF!

K. BOS

DICK AYERS

THE STAMPEDE WAS BUT A PRELUDE TO A MORE TRAGIC EVENT... THE DOWNFALL OF A MAN WHO HAD SPENT A LIFETIME DOING A JOB HONESTLY AND WELL! IT WAS UP TO THE *RAWHIDE KID* TO PREVENT...

## "THE LAST ROUNDUP!"

APACHE KNEW HIS BUSINESS AS A RANGE HORSE, AND NOW HE WENT ABOUT IT LIKE AN EXPERT...

BUMP 'EM HARD, APACHE! WE'LL TURN THESE ORNERY CRITTERS!

NOW HELP WAS COMING FROM A NEW QUARTER...

RANDY! DON'T TRY TO BLUFF THEM! KEEP PLENTY OF ROOM BETWEEN THEM AND YOU!

THEY'LL TURN! KEEP BUMPING 'EM, KID!

MOMENTS LATER, THE STAMPEDE WAS BROKEN...

THAT DID IT, RANDY! THEY'LL RUN THEMSELVES OUT NOW!

I WONDER WHAT SPOOKED THEM?

THOSE HOMBRES ARE RIDING LIKE HORNETS ON A RAMPAGE!

I'VE GOT A FEELING WE'RE IN FOR TROUBLE!

OKAY, LIFT 'EM HIGH! WE MAKE SHORT WORK OF RUSTLERS IN THIS TERRITORY!

YOU'RE TALKING THROUGH YOUR STETSON, MISTER! WE JUST BLOCKED OFF YOUR STAMPEDING HERD, SO PUT THOSE SIX-GUNS AWAY!

JACK, MOVE IN AND DISARM THAT HOMBRE! HE CAN TELL HIS STORY TO A JURY!

YOU'D BETTER CALM DOWN OR YOU'LL BE PICKING CHUNKS OF HARDWARE OFF THE GROUND!

AN INVISIBLE MOVEMENT, AND THE KID'S GUNS WERE SHATTERING TARGETS!

IF WE WERE RUSTLING A HERD, WE WOULDN'T HAVE WAITED FOR YOU HOMBRES TO RIDE US DOWN!

SORRY WE BLEW UP! I RECKON THERE'S SENSE IN WHAT YOU SAY, BUT THIS IS THE LAST ROUNDUP FOR OLD BEN GANNON! IF HE'D HAVE WATCHED THE HERD, THIS *WOULDN'T* HAVE HAPPENED!

I DON'T KNOW GANNON, BUT ANYTHING'S LIKELY TO STAMPEDE A HERD! MAYBE SOMETHING HAPPENED TO GANNON!

GANNON'S FIRED! HE'S TOO OLD TO RIDE THE RANGE ANYHOW!

RANDY, AN OLD COWHAND ***NEVER*** LEAVES HIS HERD, UNLESS SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO HIM! LET'S LOOK AROUND A BIT!

SURE THING, KID! IT SEEMS UNFAIR TO FIRE AN OLD MAN!

ONE HOUR LATER, IN A HIDDEN ARROYO...

THERE! I RECKON YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!

TH-THANKS! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HERD? SOME HOMBRES SPOOKED THEM... MY HORSE STUMBLED IN A GOPHER HOLE WHEN I WENT AFTER 'EM!

THE HERD'S OKAY, BEN! WE TURNED THEM IN THE GULLY, BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'RE OUT OF A JOB! YOUR BOSS SAID SO!

CAN'T SAY I BLAME BILL COWAN MUCH! I'M TOO OLD TO BE RIDIN' HERD! I'VE HAD MY DAY, SO I RECKON THIS WAS MY LAST ROUNDUP!

A FLURRY OF SHOTS COMING FROM THE GULLY WHERE WE LEFT THE HERD! CAN YOU RIDE, BEN?

I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE MY LAST RIDE! LET'S GO!

MOMENTS LATER...

THAT'S THEM! THE SAME BUZZARDS WHO JUMPED THE HERD BEFORE!

WELL, LET'S STOP THEM THIS TIME! RANDY, YOU STAY OUT OF GUN-RANGE!

THEY WHIRLED DOWN LIKE CYCLONES ON A RAMPAGE...

RUN, 'EM DOWN, BOYS! SCARE 'EM OUT OF THE COUNTY!

NICE ROPING, RANDY! AT LEAST WE'VE GOT ONE OF THE COYOTES!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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Here's something new in target throwing. In case you miss, it comes right back to you, and bingo! you're all set to "fire" again. More fun than a "barrel of monkeys!"

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**Ventro & Book**

Your chance to be a ventriloquist. Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, and everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. You'll fool the teacher, your friends, and your family and have fun doing it. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist"

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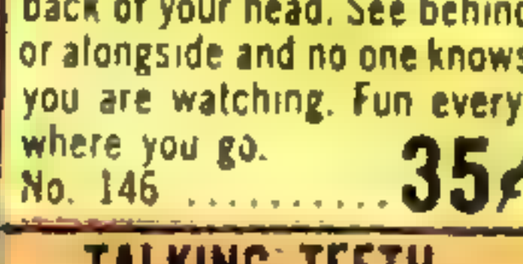

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Your chance to have eyes in back of your head. See behind or alongside and no one knows you are watching. Fun everywhere you go.

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Place it on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It ~~goes~~ forth embarrassing noises. ~~Made~~ of rubber, and inflatable. A scream at parties and gatherings.

No. 247..... **50¢**

**TRICK BASEBALL**

It bounces cockeyed, it curves, it dips, it's impossible to catch it's sure to set all the kids on the block spinning after it. There's a barrel of fun in every bounce of this amazing baseball No 158 **50¢**

**TALKING TEETH**

They move! They talk! They're weird! Guaranteed to shut the blabbermouths up for good it'll really embarrass them. It's a set of big false teeth that when wound up, start to chatter away, like crazy A great comic effect for false teeth on cold nights.

No 513 ... ..... **1.25**

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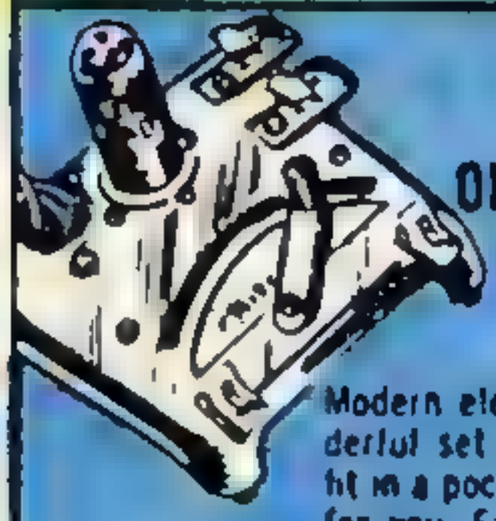

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Show them the "naughty" pictures inside They'll twist it and turn it to see, but all they do is blacken their eyes

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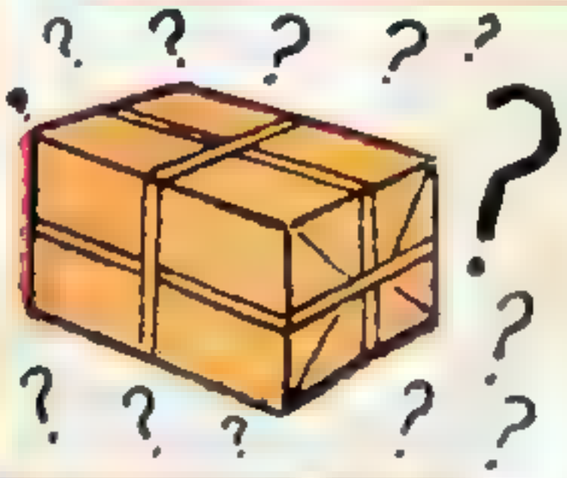

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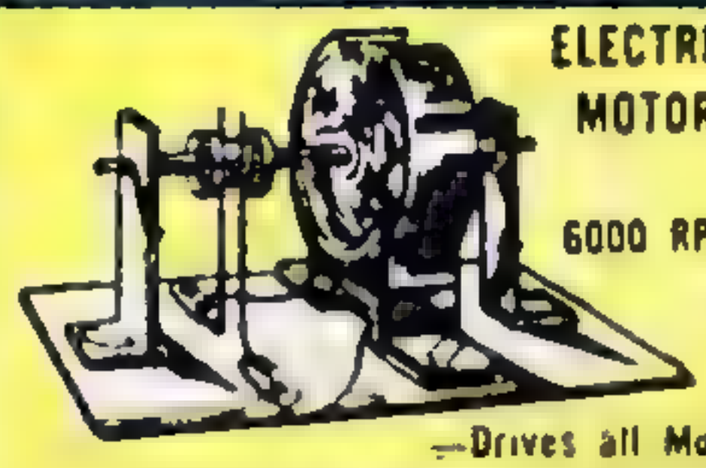

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THAT'S ONE OF THEM, ALL RIGHT! TIGHTEN THE LARIAT UNTIL HE TELLS US WHERE THE OTHERS HOLE UP!

THEY WENT BACK TO HOOT OWL CANYON TO GET THE THREE COWPOKES WE BUSHWHACKED A WHILE AGO!

THEY MUST HAVE CAUGHT UP WITH YOUR BOSS, BEN!

RANDY, TAKE THAT BUZZARD TO TOWN!

THIS IS A HEAP OF EXCITEMENT FOR MY LAST ROUNDUP!

MEANWHILE...

YOU GOT ABOUT FIFTEEN SECONDS TO WRITE OUT A BILL OF SALE ON THOSE CATTLE!

UNTIE MY HANDS! I'LL SIGN THEM OVER!

SUDDENLY...

IT'S *YOUR* PLAY, BEN! I'LL BACK YOUR HARDWARE!

YOU RATTLERS CAUSED ME PLENTY OF TROUBLE TODAY! NOW YOU CAN TRY SHOOTIN' YOUR WAY TO FREEDOM! *DRAW!*

BEN GANNON WAS OLD, BUT HIS HANDS STILL CARRIED THE FLASH OF A MASTER GUNTOTER!

TOO BAD YOU CAN'T USE BEN ANY MORE, COWAN! HE'LL BE A CREDIT TO ANY SHERIFF'S FORCE IN THE COUNTY!

WELL, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT! HE CAN HIRE BACK WITH ME, AND I RECKON HE DESERVES A *BETTER* JOB, SO...

I'LL TAKE YOU ON AS *TOP RAMROD* OF THE *SQUARE C*, BEN! IS THAT OKAY?

YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A STRAW BOSS, MISTER COWAN!

THE END

# KID SIX-GUN

COULD *ANY* MAN OUTDRAW THE KID?

BOSS..IT'S ME, SAMMY, OPEN UP THERE'S TROUBLE!

KNOCK! KNOCK!

OPEN THE DOOR REO!

by Stan Lee and Pete Morisi

K995

BOSS WE GOTTA CLEAR OUTTA TOWN. I JUST HEARD KID SIX-GUN IS COMIN'!

KID SIX-GUN!

THE FASTEST GUN NORTH OF THE BORDER!

I AIN'T LEAVIN' TOWN FER NOBODY... NOT EVEN KID SIX-GUN.

BUT BOSS, EVER SINCE THE GOVERNOR DEPUTIZED HIM, HE'S DEATH ON OWLHOOTS.. YOU KNOW THAT!

DIRTY NO-GOOD QUITTERS! WE'LL **STILL** BEAT KID SIX-GUN SOMEHOW! WHEN'S HE COMIN'?

WHAT ARE WE AFRAID OF? THERE'S FIVE OF US AND ONLY ONE OF HIM!

ONLY **THREE** OF YUH, BOSS HANK AN' ME ARE LEAVIN'!

ON THE THREE O'CLOCK STAGE!

THAT GIVES US A FAIR CHANCE. WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE?

DUNNO BOSS. NO ONE IN TOWN EVER SAW HIM, BUT I RECKON WE'LL KNOW HIM BY THE WAY HE WEARS HIS GUNS

LET'S FIND A SPOT TO WATCH THE STAGE WHEN IT PULLS IN. WE'LL FIGGER OUT WHAT TO DO WHEN WE SEE HIM

TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES LATER..

THERE IT IS!

I'LL HELP YOU, DEAR!

THANK YOU, HENRY!

HOPE YOU AND YORE WIFE ENJOY YORE STAY N LAST CHANCE, MISTER!

WELL IT AIN'T HARD TO TELL WHO KOS X-GUN IS... AIN'T NO ONE ELSE GOT OFF!

NOW WOTTA WE DO?

WE

THIS WILL BE A CINCH..WE JUST HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH HIS WIFE! HE WON'T DARE TRY NOTHIN' WHILE SHE'S WITH US! THEN WE PUT 'EM BOTH ON THE NEXT STAGE OUTA TOWN!

GREAT IDEE, BOSS!

I'LL SEE YOU LATER AT THE HOTEL DEAR. I WANT TO HIRE A HOSS NOW!

DON'T BE LONG DARLING!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE!

SUPPL

WE WANNA HAVE A WORD WITH YOU, MA'AM! WE WANT YOU AND YORE HUSBAND TO TAKE THE NEXT STAGE OUTA HERE!

AND NEVER COME BACK!

LONG AS YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF US...WE DON'T RECKON HE'LL OBJECT!

NO... BUT I WILL!

WHERE'D THAT GUN COME FROM?

FIRST, LET'S GET RID OF YOUR HARDWARE, THEN WE CAN TALK NICE AND SOCIABLE!

WHAT HAPPENED, DARLING?

WE WON'T HAVE TO STAY HERE AFTER ALL! I FOUND THE OWLHOOTS WE WERE LOOKIN' FOR! THEY KINDLY INTRODUCED THEMSELVES! WE'LL TAKE THEM BACK TO THE CAPITAL WITH US!

WHO... HOW?

YUH ONLY MADE ONE MISTAKE, HOMBRES...

YOU SHOULD HAVE FOUND OUT WHETHER KID SIX-GUN WAS A MAN OR A **WOMAN!**

THE END

# HERE IS THE KIND OF HE-MAN BODY YOU CAN HAVE!

## WHAT'S THE SECRET?

You can broaden your shoulders, strengthen your back; add inches to your chest, develop a vise-like grip, make those legs of yours powerful, shoot new strength into your backbone, exercise those inner organs, cram your body full of vigor and red-blooded vitality! The new "home gym method" that's the sure best and most inexpensive. It has changed many a 90 lb. weakling to a he-man. It has turned many a skinny boy into a marvelous physical specimen. It can do the same for you! *No $50.00 courses! No expensive gadgets.* You simply use the inexpensive home gym which helps you use the dormant muscle power in your own body. You will watch it increase in double time into solid muscle. The home gym method is easy!

**No matter how skinny or flabby you are the amazing new muscle power body builder can help you gain inches of solid muscle in double quick time—only 10 minutes a day!**

**THE HOME GYM IS SOMETHING EVERYONE WHO WANTS A BETTER BUILD WILL PRIZE! JUST MAILING THE COUPON MAY MEAN THE TURNING POINT IN YOUR LIFE!**

. . . You'll be a winner where muscles count! Many gain up to 60 lbs. of muscles and add inches to chest and arms . . . Many turn fat into muscles . . . You can develop your back, your grip, your legs—you'll look, feel, act like a real he-man. You'll find it easier to win women and men friends . . . You'll win in sports, win promotion, you'll win more praise and popularity! You get everything you need in one compact package

You get complete and full instructions with the HOME GYM . . . you'll be amazed at how easy it is to get in shape and stay in shape with the HOME GYM.

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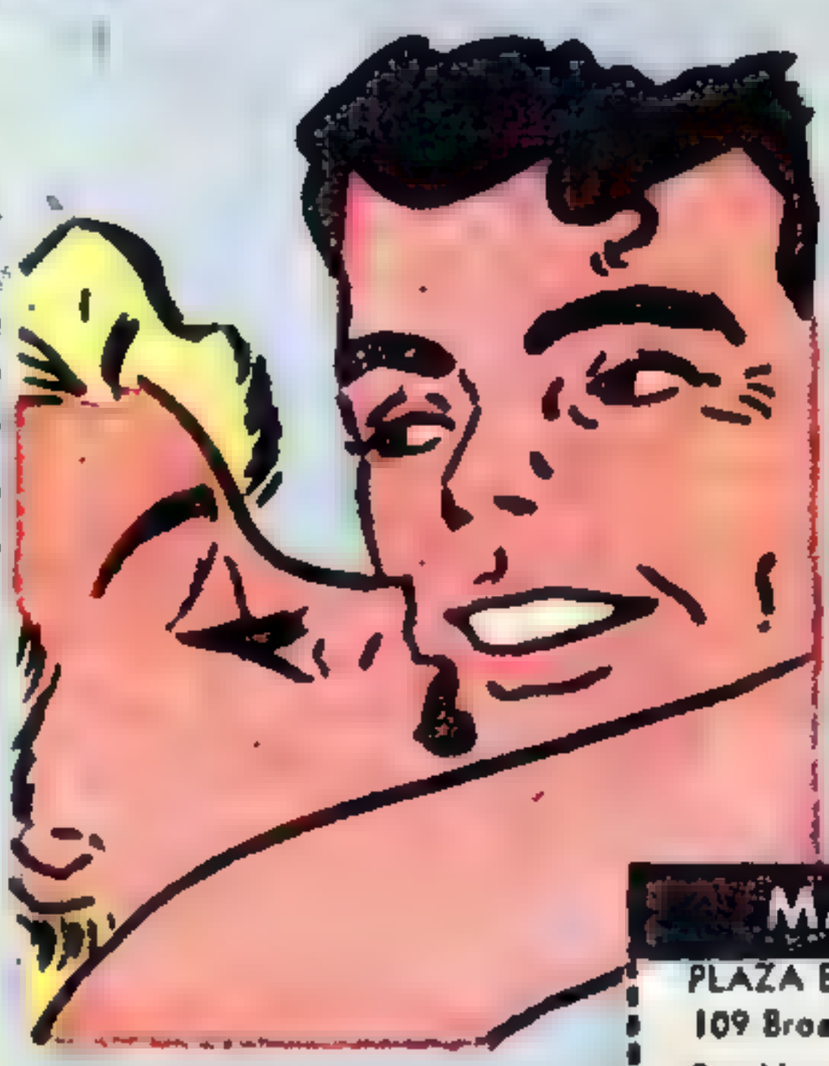

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...CONTINUED

at it for several minutes. Then, the Indian boy bent over, picked it up and laid it across the blanket saddle and rode off. Still puzzled, Jeff carefully cleaned his hunting Winchester as his father had taught him to do, put it away in its case and marched in to supper, confident that his friend would tell him all about it the next day.

But next day, Laughing Eagle failed to show up, and on the day after that, also. Jeff began to worry. He was out in the ranch-house yard with his Winchester on the afternoon of the third day, when again he heard the hoof-beats of an Indian pony. He glanced toward the bow and quiver of arrows that Laughing Eagle had left behind and then turned to greet his friend. But it wasn't Laughing Eagle who came down from the rise. It was his father, Chief Broken Arrow of the Washabo tribe. The chief's face was grave; he, too, glanced at Laughing Eagle's bow.

"You are my son's friend," he said. "And he has been gone for two days from our Washabo village. I thought, perhaps, he had stayed here."

Jeff shook his head, and his heart beat faster.

"I'm sorry, Chief Broken Arrow," he said. "I don't know where he is."

Silently, he handed the bow and quiver to the chief and watched as the Indian rode quietly back over the rise. He knew that only something very important could have kept so dutiful a son as Eagle away from his tribe. But he hoped that he'd see Eagle at the shooting contest the Washabo were holding on the outskirts of Rock Gulch on Tuesday. And Tuesday was only two days away.

On Tuesday morning he watched the conclave of the tribe gather down from the hills and stream toward the town, the braves in the lead, proudly riding their mounts. Flying Stork was prominent in the forefront of the Washabos. By noon, Jeff had finished his chores. He mounted his own horse and rode into Rock Gulch.

The annual Indian festival was already in full swing. There was much trading and even the whites joined in the festivities. At two o'clock, the shooting contest began. Jeff kept his eyes peeled for Laughing Eagle, but the chief's son was nowhere to be seen. Broken Arrow himself looked silently on from the conclave of elders as the match went on.

Flying Stork quickly took all the honors, defeating the other Indian contestants one by one. Alone, now, he took aim at the great target set two hundred feet further away from the marks than on the last shots. His bow twanged, the arrow sped on its way, to fall in the outer circle of the target. Jeff's face fell. Flying Stork had not centered his shot, but there was no other contestant, and so Flying Stork had won.

Suddenly, from the crowd, stepped a small, lithe figure, carrying a short, oddly-shaped bow. A cry went up. It was Laughing Eagle, and Chief Broken Arrow's face widened in surprise and delight. Eagle walked past the scowling Flying Stork, stepped in the marks, drew back his odd bow and took aim. Again Jeff's face fell, as a shout of laughter at Laughing Eagle echoed, for he knew the bow was too short to propel an arrow such a great distance to the target. Abruptly the arrow leaped forward, arched into the air in a swift, low flight and slammed into the very center of the target! Laughing Eagle turned, bowed to his father and then faced Jeff who came running up.

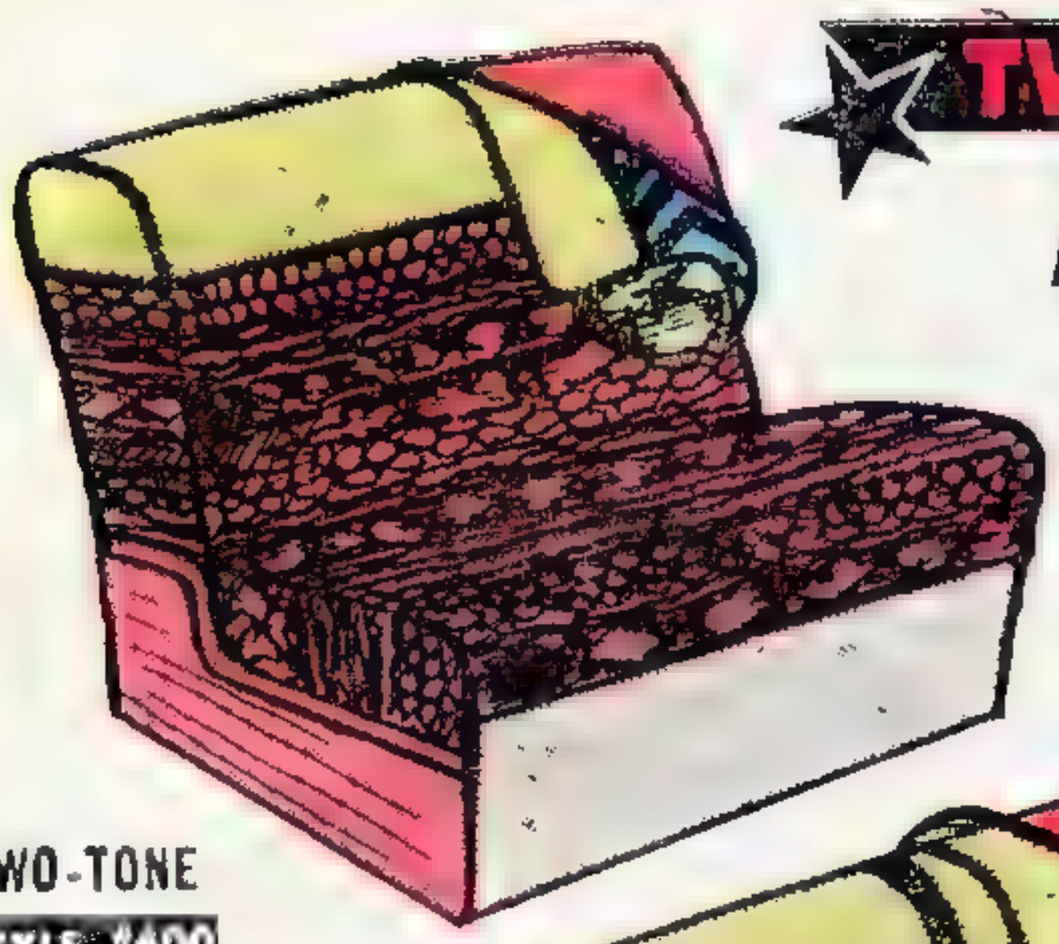
"You've won!" Jeff cried. "But how did you do it?" He took the bow from his friend and glanced at it. It was no more than four feet long, with its ends bent away from the string.

"It is a short-bow, made of the laminated strips of the horn of long-horn cattle," Eagle said. "A book in the white man's school showed me how to make it. That is why I went into the desert, to collect the horns of long-dead cattle and thus make the bow. It is short, but its shape doubles the power of the ordinary bow, yet takes little effort!"

"But it isn't an Indian bow!" Jeff said.

Laughing Eagle grinned. "Oh, yes it is!" he said. "That was another thing the white man's school taught me. Our people came originally from Asia thousands of years ago, and when they came, *this* was the kind of bow they used!" He glanced around at his father. "Now, how about that prize pony, father!" he called.

THE END F-848



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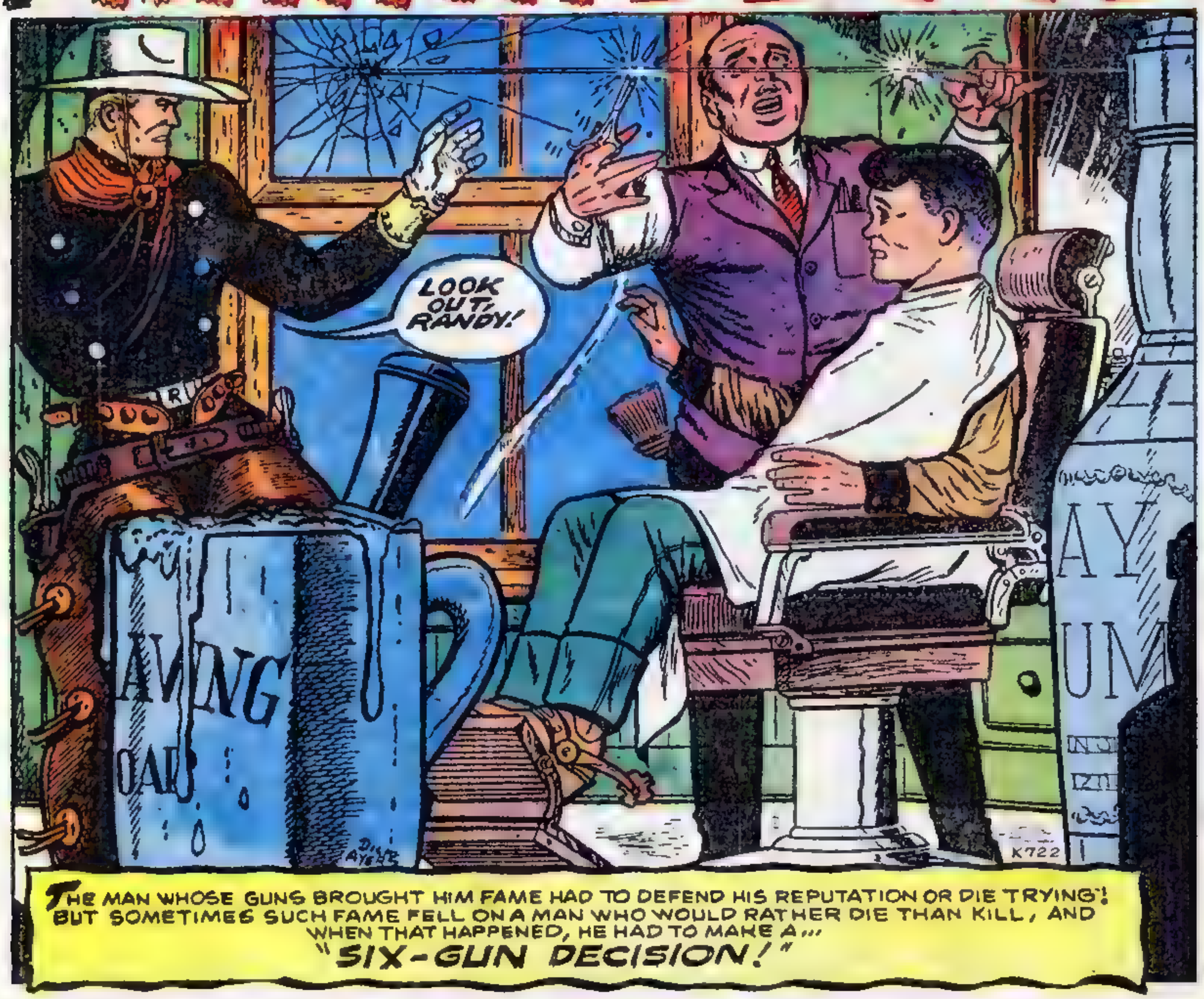
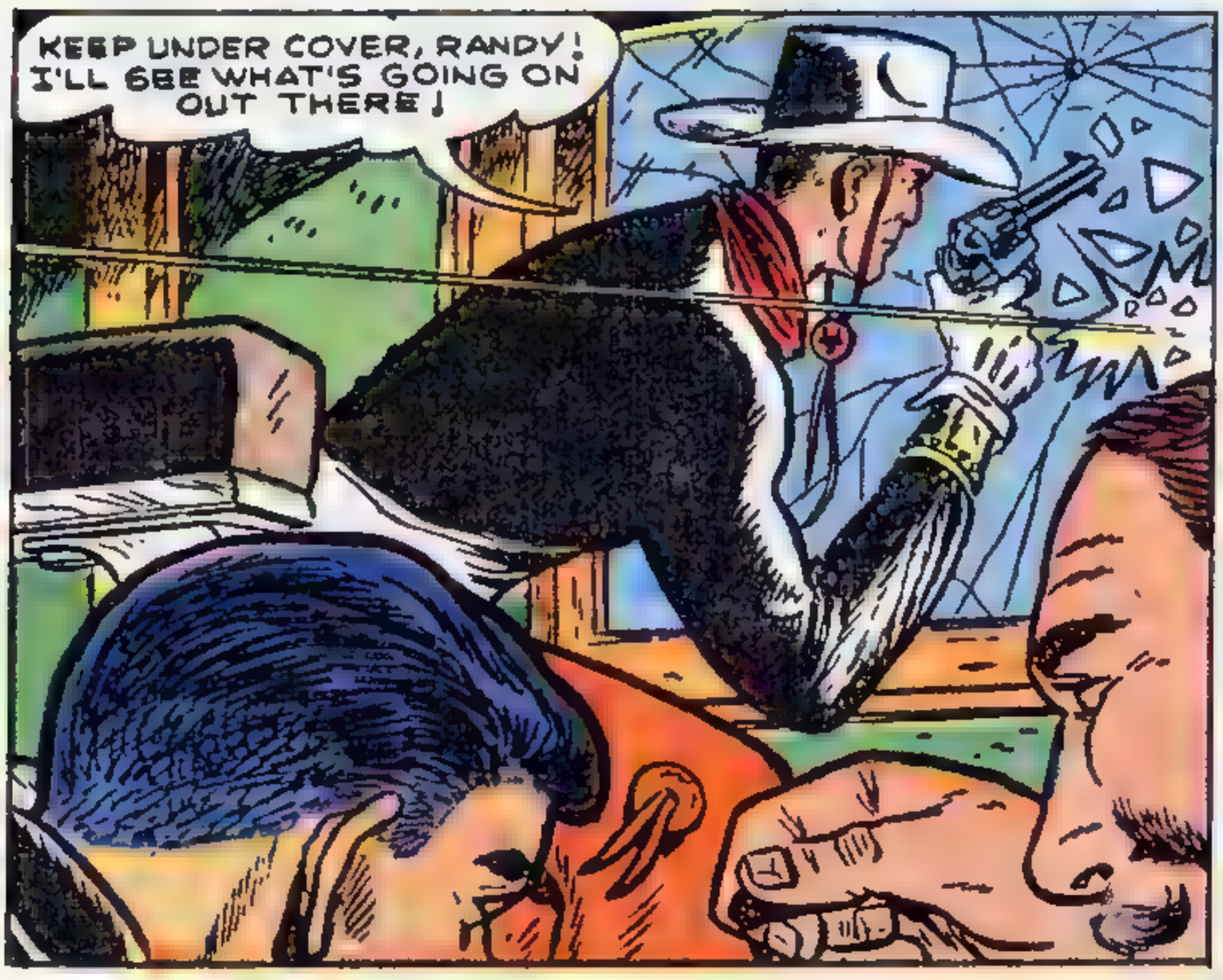
# THE RAWHIDE KID




THE MAN WHOSE GUNS BROUGHT HIM FAME HAD TO DEFEND HIS REPUTATION OR DIE TRYING! BUT SOMETIMES SUCH FAME FELL ON A MAN WHO WOULD RATHER DIE THAN KILL, AND WHEN THAT HAPPENED, HE HAD TO MAKE A...

"SIX-GUN DECISION!"



I'LL BE A HORNED TOAD! TWO BUSHWHACKERS ARE TAKING POT SHOTS AT A LONE HOMBRE WHO ISN'T EVEN GOING FOR HIS GUNS!
HE MUST BE TIRED OF LIVIN'!

ONE LOOK TOLD THE RAWHIDE KID THAT THIS MAN WAS WALKING TO CERTAIN DOOM...

HEY, YOU LOCO FOOL! DO YOU NEED AN INVITATION TO TELL YOU THOSE HOMBRES ARE PLAYING FOR KEEPS? DRAW OR DUCK!

ARE YOU DEAF AND BLIND? TAKE COVER!

LEAVE ME BE, STRANGER! I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!

THE RAWHIDE KID HAD SEEN ENOUGH! NOW HIS GUNS WHIPPED OUT AND COMMENCED ROARING...

I'LL MAKE THIS AN *EVEN FIGHT*, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!

HIGHER, YOU PAIR OF SIDEWINDERS!

TELL THE SHERIFF TO THROW THE BOOK AT THEM!

THROW WHAT YOU GOT, BUT AT LEAST WE TRIED TO FINISH OFF DUKE SPERRY! I'M SORRY WE MISSED!

DUKE SPERRY? HE'S RIGHT! THAT *IS* DUKE SPERRY!

I DON'T CARE IF HE'S DAVY CROCKETT! HE DIDN'T DRAW OR TRY TO FIGHT! THESE RATTLERS WERE OUT OF BOUNDS!

I DON'T GET IT, SPERRY! YOUR GUNS ARE KNOWN FROM COAST TO COAST! WHY DIDN'T YOU FIGHT?

I'M TIRED OF FIGHTIN'! I'M TIRED OF RISKIN' MY LIFE TO PROVE MY GUNS ARE FAST! THESE GUNS DON'T FEED OR COMFORT ME! THEY'RE JUST GUNS!

THAT'S STRANGE TALK FOR A MAN WITH YOUR REP!

STRANGE, BUT TRUE! EVERYTHING I DO IS WRONG! EVERY MOVE I MAKE GETS ME INTO MORE TROUBLE!

AMIGO, ALL I WANT IS PEACE!

IF YOU HADN'T INTERFERED, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL OVER ... AND GOOD RIDDANCE!

WELL, YOU'RE USING THE WRONG THINKING! TROUBLE DOESN'T LOOK FOR PEOPLE ... PEOPLE GENERALLY LOOK FOR *IT*!

GET YORE HANDS OFF THEM REINS, YOU HORSE THIEF! THAT'S *MY* CAYUSE!

HUH!?!

MEBBE YOUR NAME'S DUKE SPERRY, BUT YOU AIN'T GOIN' TO STEAL MY HORSE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!

MISTER, I RODE *IN* ON THIS HORSE, AND I'M RIDIN' *OUT*!

NOBODY CALLS ME A HORSE THIEF UNLESS HE WANTS TO DECORATE BOOTHILL!

SPERRY, YOU'VE CAUSED ENOUGH TROUBLE IN THIS TOWN FOR ONE DAY! YOU'RE GOING TO COOL OFF IN A CELL!

FOR WHAT? FOR CLAIMING MY OWN HORSE? HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU MY BRAND ON THIS CAYUSE!

THERE! DO YOU THINK I MADE THAT BRAND IN THE LAST FIVE MINUTES!

*WHAT?!* I RECKON MEBBE I WAS WRONG! IT SURE *LOOKS* LIKE MY CAYUSE!

WHAT'S ALL THE RUCKUS ABOUT? HENSON, YOU LEFT YOUR CAYUSE BEHIND GROGAN'S PLACE! THIS ISN'T YOURS!

HENSON, YOU BETTER CLAIM THAT HORSE IN A HURRY, OR I'LL RUN YOU IN! DUKE, I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS! LET'S FORGET IT!

SEE WHAT I MEAN? IT JUST AIN'T NO USE! TROUBLE FOLLOWS ME!

DUKE, YOU'VE GOT A JINX TRAILING YOU, AND SOMEHOW YOU'VE GOT TO SHAKE IT! IT WILL JUST TAKE ONE INCIDENT TO BREAK THAT JINX!

NO, THANKS! IT'S NO USE! THIS *IS* A JINX... I'M STUCK WITH IT!

SAL

YOU'RE WRONG, DUKE!

GET OUT AN' STAY OUT! IF YOU THINK OUR GAME IS CROOKED, YOU'LL HAVE TO ***PROVE*** IT, WITH SIX-GUNS!

THAT POOR HOMBRE'S TOO OLD TO BE HANDLED LIKE THAT! LET'S TEACH THEM A LESSON!

COME ON, DUKE!

NO! THESE THINGS ALWAYS TURN OUT BAD FOR ME! IT'S BEST FOR ME TO MIND MY OWN BUSINESS!

DUKE SPERRY, YOU'RE A COWARD! A MAN WITH A REPUTATION LIKE YOURS, LETS A POOR, OLD MAN BE PUSHED AROUND, WITHOUT RAISING A HELPING HAND! FOR SHAME!

IF I HELPED HIM, I'D BE A BULLY USING MY GUNS AGAINST DEFENSELESS PEOPLE! I ***DON'T*** HELP HIM AND I GET BLAMED ANYWAY!

I'VE GOT A BLACK REP AND I'LL HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT! PEOPLE EXPECT THE *WORST* FROM ME...

MAYBE THE TIDE WILL TURN, DUKE!

*KID!* I JUST SAW TWO BUSH-WHACKERS TURN ON THE SHERIFF IN THE JAIL! THEY GRABBED HIM AND SAID THEY'D HURT HIM, UNLESS HE GIVES THEM HORSES AND THEIR FREEDOM!

DUKE, EVERY GUNFIGHTER GETS HIS CHANCE TO HIT THE RIGHT TRAIL! THIS IS YOURS! DO YOU WANT TO TAKE IT OR PASS IT UP?

YOU MEAN... HELP THE SHERIFF? I DON'T KNOW! I'VE GOT TO THINK IT OVER AN' MAKE A DECISION!

IT WAS A TOUGH DECISION TO MAKE FOR A MAN WHOSE EVERY MOVE HAD TURNED SOUR, BUT DUKE SPERRY MADE IT...

I'LL TAKE THAT CHANCE! WHERE ARE THESE HOMBRES, SON?

IN THE JAIL HOUSE! THERE'S A SKYLIGHT IN THE REAR ROOF!

MAYBE YOU COULD JUMP 'EM THAT WAY!

SECONDS LATER, DUKE CRASHED INTO THE SHOTGUN CITY JAIL...

WHAT?! STOP 'IM!

BUT DUKE SPERRY'S GUNS WERE BLAZING AS HE LANDED ON THE FLOOR...

I'LL GET THESE HOMBRES BEHIND BARS... FAST!

THE MAN WHO EMERGED FROM THE SHOTGUN CITY JAIL WAS A *NEW* MAN! HE HAD MADE A SIX-GUN DECISION!

HOW DO YOU FEEL *NOW*, DUKE?

*GREAT!* GUESS *YOU* WERE *RIGHT*... I WAS *GIVEN* MY CHANCE... AND I MADE GOOD! I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU, COMPADRE!

THE END

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John Sill NOW

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